

REMARKS*Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102*

Claim 29 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Agarwal et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,277,687). Applicant strongly traverses this rejection.

Applicant notes that the reference used in support of the rejection relies on 35 U.S.C. § 102(e). In responding to the rejections, Applicant does not admit that the reference is prior art and Applicant specifically reserves the right to swear behind this reference at a future date.

Claim 29 recites in pertinent part, “masking a first partial circumferential portion of said insulating layer; etching a second partial circumferential portion of said insulating layer from a partial circumferential part of said exterior surface to expose the part of said exterior surface ...” Applicant submits that Agarwal et al. does no such masking and etching. It is clear from a reading of column 4, line 35 through column 5, line 8 of Agarwal et al. that there is no masking of only a first partial circumferential portion of the insulating layer. In fact, as is seen in Figures 4 and 5, the entire circumferential portion around the container is left unmasked. Further, there is no etching of a second partial circumferential portion of the insulating layer from a *partial* circumferential part of the exterior surface of the container as is also recited in the claim. In fact, the etch etches an entire circumferential portion as is described in the text, and as is shown in at least Figures 4 and 5.


Agarwal et al. does not show each and every element of the claim. As such, Applicant submits that the claim is allowable.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection, submits that all claims are clearly in condition for allowance, and requests that a notice of allowance be issued. If the Examiner has any questions or concerns regarding this application, please contact the undersigned at (612) 312-2203.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 6 Jan. 2005



Daniel J. Polglaze
Reg. No. 39,801

Attorneys for Applicant
Leffert Jay & Polglaze
P.O. Box 581009
Minneapolis, MN 55458-1009
T 612 312-2200
F 612 312-2250